

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 117
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to honor James W. Anderson on his retirement
as Superintendent of the Shelby County school
system.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those who, in
their years of work, have performed with extraordinary dedication and devotion; and

WHEREAS, James W. Anderson is one such outstanding person who has served with
alacrity and acuity for 38 years with the Shelby County school system, serving admirably as
Superintendent for 12 years, Deputy Superintendent for 2 years, Assistant Superintendent,
Personnel Services for 14 years, Director of Purchasing for 5 years, and teacher, coach, and
guidance counselor for 5 years; and

WHEREAS, James Anderson through diligent thought and effort oversaw a large diverse
school system with wisdom, kindness and thoroughness; and

WHEREAS, he exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great
Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, one of Tennessee's most respected educators and administrators, Mr.
Anderson is a graduate of Memphis State University, where he received his Bachelor of Science
and Master of Science degrees; and

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WHEREAS, answering the call to military service, Mr. Anderson served valiantly with the United State's Army's 82nd Airborne Division as a Paratrooper and smoke jumper with the U.S. Forest Service for four summers; and

WHEREAS, for many years, James Anderson has been a prominent and highly influential figure in the educational and civic life of Shelby County and the State of Tennessee and has served the people in numerous capacities; he has worked diligently at his duties and worked well with others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Anderson is an active and vital part of the community and his profession, participating in numerous organizations, including the Tennessee Superintendent's Study Council - Chairman, Executive Board; Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents - Legislative Committee; Ad Hoc Committee High School Graduation Requirements; Metropolitan Area School Systems; Tennessee Association of School Business Officials; Tennessee Association School Personnel Administrators; Shelby County Education Association - President, Treasurer; Tennessee Education Association; and National Education Association; and

WHEREAS, for his outstanding achievements in education, Mr. Anderson has received several awards and honors, including: Educator of the Year, Shelby County Education Association, 1986; National Life Membership, PTA, 1986; Silver Beaver Award, Chickasaw Council, Boy Scouts of America, 1991; Superintendent of the Year, PTA, 1989 and 1995; and Educator of the Year, Greater Memphis State University, 1993; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Anderson generously contributed his time and talent to many civic enterprises, including the Board of Directors of Junior Achievement and Boy Scouts of America Chickasaw Council; Greater Memphis State University - Membership Committee; Mid-South Fair Board - Education Committee; Memphis Chamber of Commerce; Future Memphis; Goals for Memphis - Education Committee; Leadership Memphis - Annual Programs; Memphis

Partners - Advisory Board; Task Force for Education Excellence in Shelby County; and
Foundation for the Library - Board Member; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Anderson also takes times from a very busy schedule to serve on the
State Board of Education - Advisory Committee for Teacher Certification; University of Memphis
- Advisory Committee School of Education Restructuring; State Technical Institute - General
Advisory Council; Bolton College Board of Trustees; and the Shelby County Vocational
Education - Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, James Anderson is a devout Christian and evinces his strong belief in the
Lord through his membership at Highland Street Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, the countless honors that have been conferred upon him and his many
accomplishments aside, Mr. Anderson is most appreciative of the love and support he receives
from his wife, Shirley Snider Anderson, and their four children; and

WHEREAS, James W. Anderson is a very caring and dedicated individual, who as
school superintendent, succeeded in adverse conditions, always placing the needs of students
and employees first; and

WHEREAS, his leadership is a major contributor to the excellent reputation of the Shelby
County school system which positively affects the Memphis community, the State of Tennessee
and public education; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-
HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE
CONCURRING, That we honor the long and outstanding career of James W. Anderson, and
extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.